







## The Bassano News

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### WHAT ARE THE ARRANGEMENTS.

Almost every political address delivered by Conservative members of the Dominion House in Western Canada contains a reference to the Hudson Bay Railway and the early completion of the line, says the Winnipeg Tribune. The grading and the rail-laying goes on during the construction season. Regarding that fact there is no doubt. But when the line is completed from the Pas to the Bay, what are the arrangements for sending the wheat from Grand Trunk Pacific and Canadian Pacific points over the northerly route? The Canadian Northern is now at the Pas, and the government let a contract to Mackenzie and Mann for building a railway bridge over the river, at that point, connecting the government railway line with the C. N. R. line. Premier Borden has given his pledge that the Hudson Bay Railway will be owned and operated by the government. Without extensions into the wheat-growing country, the line will be dependent for its grain freight upon the company lines. Has the government taken up the question with the three feeding lines, or is the whole matter left in abeyance until the government line is completed to the Bay and in readiness for operation? This is an interesting point, and one that seems to be evaded by speakers on behalf of the government. It may be said on behalf of the government that parliament is all powerful, and will lay down the law to the railway companies at a convenient season. As a business proposition, however, it would seem reasonable that the government should be moving, and on so important a matter the people should be taken into the confidence of the government—Albertan.

In connection with the New York Times "Gift of Today" competition some interesting points were made by Dr. Alfred Schofield in a lecture this week. He said that about fifty years ago a new movement started and women began to improve their minds and bodies. The professions were grudgingly opened to them and they were allowed to take part in games and pursuits hitherto closed to them. Later lawn tennis and cycling were great factors in physical culture. The present generation of women were taller by one-half-inch than their grandmothers, whose average height had been 5 feet 1 1/2 inches. In tenacity of life they were two years better than men. They had developed a love of sport for sport's sake, which was of value racially, as it will make for the improvement of humanity.

In the highest type of women the first finger was longer than the third, and in the skin and certain other characteristics they were further removed from the animal creation than man.

The report is that the Mexican Federalists, upon evacuating the town of Monclova, poisoned the towns' supply of drinking water, causing the death of something like 400 of the residents. This is bringing the struggle down to the worst features of savage warfare known to history, and it strikes us, that civilization should protest more forcibly than with mere words of remonstrance. It is becoming more plainly evident every day that if one faction or the other does not speedily triumph, the United States will have to interfere for the re-establishment of order. It landed troops in Nicaragua to stop the savage bandits from non-combatants in defiance of the rules of civilized warfare, thereby contributing to the speedy overthrow of the Selaya government. The Mexican situation would seem to afford a parallel provocative to similar action.

Under the new tariff law we are to get free wheat from Argentina, that country having formally notified the United States of the passage of a law removing the duty of a cents a pound which Argentina imposed on American semolina, which barred the free importation of grain into this country. Next the United States and Canada Argentina is the largest grain producing country on the Western Hemisphere, and it is especially a large exporter of wheat. The consumers of this country will await anxiously to see if the result of the free importation will mean cheaper biscuits and cheaper loaves.

A determined sheriff and fifteen deputies inside the jail at Chesterwood, Md., stood off a mob of 1,000 persons Saturday night and prevented the lynching of a self-confessed negro murderer, after the mob had broken down the outer doors and gained entrance into the jail. That kind of courage and resolute determination on the part of a sheriff entrusted with the safe-keeping of a prisoner will usually defeat a mob in its purpose of taking the law into its own hands.

The brutal assault upon and deportation of Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, and leader of the copper miners' strike at Calumet, Mich., bears on the face of such evidence as has been disclosed the

aspect of a very ugly affair. The matter should be probed to the bottom and the parties guilty of the outrage and back of the conspiracy, if there was a conspiracy, punished to the full extent of the law.

The supreme court of California has rendered a decision affirming the right of the State Railroad Commission to regulate rates on coastwise traffic by water, even when the steamship company is operated by a railroad company. This is an important victory for the people, as it will mean the establishment of actual competition between water and rail rates.

Some man in New York is telling the New York Herald that Andrew Carnegie is the man to succeed Woodrow Wilson as President of the United States. Andy is not eligible, of course, but his admirer is not a fellow to hold back for constitutional trifles.

Carranza says he proposes to continue to kill all Federal prisoners he can. Is he any better than Huerta? And Mexico is said to be a Christian country. So are the Balkan States Christian, yet they gave Turkey the shivers when it came to warfare along Christian lines.

Whenever a man is blessed with good fortune which enables him to combine business with beatific pleasure by telling his enemies what he thinks of them at a dollar a word, he will never suffer for the common necessities of life so long as he can start something with somebody.

A New York man was sent to jail for thirty days for throwing ice water on his wife while she was asleep. Served him right. If one wants to throw ice water on his wife he ought to do while she is awake and take the consequences like a man.

Four new words are added to the English language every day, if the dictionaries may be accepted as a standard of measurement. During the three centuries the rate of growth of the dictionaries has been fifteen hundred words a year.

Now that a scientist has told a waiting world that the earth will only last fifteen million years more we despair of getting back the \$25 it cost us to endorse a draft for a newspaper friend. A part of the fifteen million years is gone already.

What has happened to upset General Villa's plans? Without wishing to hurry him, or anything like that, it may be suggested that he is the general who declared he was going to celebrate Christmas in the City of Mexico.

Provisional President Huerta, in a last desperate attempt to popularize himself, has proclaimed ten extra holidays. The Mexican idea of statecraft is to make two fete days grow where only one grew before.

### TAMPERING WITH TRIFLES

(By Jack Mortimer Lewis)

#### RESOLVED

I ought to make a New Year vow  
To hang the motto: "Do It Now."  
Right up before me on my wall,  
And never hesitate at all,  
And not hang back a single bit  
Through the whole year while I shall sit  
Here facing it, while it tells me  
I ought to go and "Do It Now."

Some people always "Do It Now."  
They are too stiff to ever bow  
Before the breeze of their desire,  
And toast their shrines before a fire.  
The while they have the strength to run  
At some huge task that should be done;  
They have so many things to do  
They're nearly always in a stew.

And they have money in their clothes,  
And wear top hats and silken hose;  
Have automobile to choo-choo  
Them to the tasks they've to do;  
So they may get them done and go  
To other tasks that wait; and so  
They're always figuring out how  
To do something and "Do It Now."

They keep forever on the run—  
And miss a world of joy and fun;  
They draw a check for charity;  
For they have not the time to be  
A personal good fellow, so  
They race and chase and come and go;  
Their charities do them no good,  
Bring them no gladness as they should.

I think I'll make a New Year's vow;  
I'll hang the motto: "Do It Now!"  
Before me in its proper place,  
But I'll take care to turn its face  
To my old dingy office wall,  
And never look at it at all;  
Not ever give a thought to it,  
Nor let it bother me a bit.

As soon as my day's work is done  
I shall not grab my hat and run  
To find me something else to do;  
I'll think: "The skies are sort of blue,  
And whilst the clockships all above  
I'll find some little folks I love  
And start a joyous rowdy-dow;  
That's what I'll do, and do it now!"

### THE FRIENDS OF COMBINES

Just how interested the present government, and especially Hon. J. W. Crothers, the "Minister of Play" is in the "interests" is shown by the recently published report of the Deputy Minister of Labor, in May 1910, the then Liberal Government, in order to provide legal machinery to prevent the application of the public by combines and "tricks" passed the Combines Investigation Act. On November 10, 1910, the first action under the law was taken. Serious complaints were made by the manufacturers of boots and shoes in Canada that their business was hampered and made unduly costly by the trade methods of the United Shoe Machinery Company of Canada. It was alleged that this company, which was an adjunct of the American Shoe Co., was a perfect specimen of a combine in restraint of trade.

On February 18th, 1911, the investigating committee was appointed by Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, then Minister of Labor, under the Combines Investigation Act, to take cognizance of the charges. This committee was met with every possible legal opposition and delay by the United Shoe Machinery Company, but finally the validity of the law and its methods was established.

The investigating committee comprised a representative of the shoe manufacturers, a representative of the United Shoe Machinery Company, and Mr. Justice Laurin, then Minister of Justice. They went into the matter thoroughly, investigating the trade conditions at all the leading centers of shoe production. Between their appointment and the presentation of their report, occurred the change of Government in September 1911.

On October 28th, 1912, the Board reported: "The United Shoe Machinery Company of Canada is a combine, and by the operation of the clauses of the lawers quoted in the foregoing, which restrict the use of the leased machinery in the way therein set forth, competition in the manufacture, production, sale, and supply of shoe machinery in Canada has been and is unduly restricted and prevented."

"In view of the circumstances of the case, however, we consider it necessary that the delay of ten months prescribed in clause 23 of the Combines Investigation Act, 9-10 Edward VII Chapter 9, Canada, be extended, and we recommend that it be delayed by six months."

A minority report was also made by W. J. White, K. C., of Montreal, who represented the United Shoe Machinery Company on the investigation Board.

Naturally Mr. White reported that in his opinion his employees were not an illegal combine.

The Combines Investigation Act provides that those held by the Board of Investigation to have been parties to a criminal offence in the public interest, etc., are "guilty of an indictable offence liable to a penalty not exceeding \$1,000 a day and costs" for every day after the date from the publication of the investigation committee's report in the Canada Gazette.

In order to do full justice to the United Shoe Machinery Company, the Board ordered that this period of grace be extended to six months, so that the date on which its findings became operative was deferred to May 6, 1913. This was done in order to give the Company ample time in which to re-organize its business so as to do away with the objectionable combine practices. The Deputy Minister of Labor's report, is dated July 15th, 1913. After citing the above facts it concludes with the following significant statement:

"The Board's report having been published in the Canada Gazette of October 26th, 1913, the date on which the Company would be subject to the operation of section 23 was advanced to May 6, 1913, and thereafter. At that date of writing the department has not been made aware of any action taken as a result of the Board's report."

Nor has any action been taken up to the present day. According to the Labor Government anti-combine law, the United Shoe Machinery Company could be held liable up to a penalty of \$1,000 a day, for every day after the operation of the investigation committee's report that it disregards such findings. Since then some 250 days have passed. Under the law the United Shoe Machinery Company, which has been condemned as a combine in restraint of trade and a breaker of the law, might be fined \$250,000 and costs for its continued contempt of the law. Under the Borden government which is a natural friend to all combines and "tricks" no action has been taken as a result of the Board's report.

This company, which is the Canadian adjunct to a big American Combine, is permitted to do business right along in open contempt of Canadian law. The scores of thousands of dollars spent on the investigation have apparently been wasted. The shoe manufacturers and the people of Canada are just as completely under the heel of the combine as they ever were.

It is a wonder that Hon. Mr. Foster a few days ago said at Smith's Falls—

"The Lord knows we have enough combinations wandering around the country. Combinations are as plentiful as barbers at Exchamans, and we want good law and paper on reports that are put on shelves and forgotten."

When these reports mean the dismissal of Liberals from the Civil Service, do make room for Conservatives they are strictly remembered; when they mean

the enforcement of Canadian law for the protection of the Canadian people against imported conditions they are "put on the shelves and forgotten."

Parliament meets on January 14th. Before that date Hon. Mr. Foster has started out, says the Government's wandering representative. It is not likely he will be back before Parliament convenes if Mr. Borden can keep him away.

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453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 491, 493, 495, 497, 499, 501, 503, 505, 507, 509, 511, 513, 515, 517, 519, 521, 523, 525, 527, 529, 531, 533, 535, 537, 539, 541, 543, 545, 547, 549, 551, 553, 555, 557, 559, 561, 563, 565, 567, 569, 571, 573, 575, 577, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 589, 591, 593, 595, 597, 599, 601, 603, 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615, 617, 619, 621, 623, 625, 627, 629, 631, 633, 635, 637, 639, 641, 643, 645, 647, 649, 651, 653, 655, 657, 659, 661, 663, 665, 667, 669, 671, 673, 675, 677, 679, 681, 683, 685, 687, 689, 691, 693, 695, 697, 699, 701, 703, 705, 707, 709, 711, 713, 715, 717, 719, 721, 723, 725, 727, 729, 731, 733, 735, 737, 739, 741, 743, 745, 747, 749, 751, 753, 755, 757, 759, 761, 763, 765, 767, 769, 771, 773, 775, 777, 779, 781, 783, 785, 787, 789, 791, 793, 795, 797, 799, 801, 803, 805, 807, 809, 811, 813, 815, 817, 819, 821, 823, 825, 827, 829, 831, 833, 835, 837, 839, 841, 843, 845, 847, 849, 851, 853, 855, 857, 859, 861, 863, 865, 867, 869, 871, 873, 875, 877, 879, 881, 883, 885, 887, 889, 891, 893, 895, 897, 899, 901, 903, 905, 907, 909, 911, 913, 915, 917, 919, 921, 923, 925, 927, 929, 931, 933, 935, 937, 939, 941, 943, 945, 947, 949, 951, 953, 955, 957, 959, 961, 963, 965, 967, 969, 971, 973, 975, 977, 979, 981, 983, 985, 987, 989, 991, 993, 995, 997, 999, 1001, 1003, 1005, 1007, 1009, 1011, 1013, 1015, 1017, 1019, 1021, 1023, 1025, 1027, 1029, 1031, 1033, 1035, 1037, 1039, 1041, 1043, 1045, 1047, 1049, 1051, 1053, 1055, 1057, 1059, 1061, 1063, 1065, 1067, 1069, 1071, 1073, 1075, 1077, 1079, 1081, 1083, 1085, 1087, 1089, 1091, 1093, 1095, 1097, 1099, 1101, 1103, 1105, 1107, 1109, 1111, 1113, 1115, 1117, 1119, 1121, 1123, 1125, 1127, 1129, 1131, 1133, 1135, 1137, 1139, 1141, 1143, 1145, 1147, 1149, 1151, 1153, 1155, 1157, 1159, 1161, 1163, 1165, 1167, 1169, 1171, 1173, 1175, 1177, 1179, 1181, 1183, 1185, 1187, 1189, 1191, 1193, 1195, 1197, 1199, 1201, 1203, 1205, 1207, 1209, 1211, 1213, 1215, 1217, 1219, 1221, 1223, 1225, 1227, 1229, 1231, 1233, 1235, 1237, 1239, 1241, 1243, 1245, 1247, 1249, 1251, 1253, 1255, 1257, 1259, 1261, 1263, 1265, 1267, 1269, 1271, 1273, 1275, 1277, 1279, 1281, 1283, 1285, 1287, 1289, 1291, 1293, 1295, 1297, 1299, 1301, 1303, 1305, 1307, 1309, 1311, 1313, 1315, 1317, 1319, 1321, 1323, 1325, 1327, 1329, 1331, 1333, 1335, 1337, 1339, 1341, 1343, 1345, 1347, 1349, 1351, 1353, 1355, 1357, 1359, 1361, 1363, 1365, 1367, 1369, 1371, 1373, 1375, 1377, 1379, 1381, 1383, 1385, 1387, 1389, 1391, 1393, 1395, 1397, 1399, 1401, 1403, 1405, 1407, 1409, 1411, 1413, 1415, 1417, 1419, 1421, 1423, 1425, 1427, 1429, 1431, 1433, 1435, 1437, 1439, 1441, 1443, 1445, 1447, 1449, 1451, 1453, 1455, 1457, 1459, 1461, 1463, 1465, 1467, 1469, 1471, 1473, 1475, 1477, 1479, 1481, 1483, 1485, 1487, 1489, 1491, 1493, 1495, 1497, 1499, 1501, 1503, 1505, 1507, 1509, 1511, 1513, 1515, 1517, 1519, 1521, 1523, 1525, 1527, 1529, 1531, 1533, 1535, 1537, 1539, 1541, 1543, 1545, 1547, 1549, 1551, 1553, 1555, 1557, 1559, 1561, 1563, 1565, 1567, 1569, 1571, 1573, 1575, 1577, 1579, 1581, 1583, 1585, 1587, 1589, 1591, 1593, 1595, 1597, 1599, 1601, 1603, 1605, 1607, 1609, 1611, 1613, 1615, 1617, 1619, 1621, 1623, 1625, 1627, 1629, 1631, 1633, 1635, 1637, 1639, 1641, 1643, 1645, 1647, 1649, 1651, 1653, 1655, 1657, 1659, 1661, 1663, 1665, 1667, 1669, 1671, 1673, 1675, 1677, 1679, 1681, 1683, 1685, 1687, 1689, 1691, 1693, 1695, 1697, 1699, 1701, 1703, 1705, 1707, 1709, 1711, 1713, 1715, 1717, 1719, 1721, 1723, 1725, 1727, 1729, 1731, 1733, 1735, 1737, 1739, 1741, 1743, 1745, 1747, 1749, 1751, 1753, 1755, 1757, 1759, 1761, 1763, 1765, 1767, 1769, 1771, 1773, 1775, 1777, 1779, 1781, 1783, 1785, 1787, 1789, 1791, 1793, 1795, 1797, 1799, 1801, 1803, 1805, 1807, 1809, 1811, 1813, 1815, 1817, 1819, 1821, 1823, 1825, 1827, 1829, 1831, 1833, 1835, 1837, 1839, 1841, 1843, 1845, 1847, 1849, 1851, 1853, 1855, 1857, 1859, 1861, 1863, 1865, 1867, 1869, 1871, 1873, 1875, 1877, 1879, 1881, 1883, 1885, 1887, 1889, 1891, 1893, 1895, 1897, 1899, 1901, 1903, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1913, 1915, 1917, 1919, 1921, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1929, 1931, 1933, 1935, 1937, 1939, 1941, 1943, 1945, 1947, 1949, 1951, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2023, 2025, 2027, 2029, 2031, 2033, 2035, 2037, 2039, 2041, 2043, 2045, 2047, 2049, 2051, 2053, 2055, 2057, 2059, 2061, 2063, 2065, 2067, 2069, 2071, 2073, 2075, 2077, 2079, 2081, 2083, 2085, 2087, 2089, 2091, 2093, 2095, 2097, 2099, 2101, 2103, 2105, 2107, 2109, 2111, 2113, 2115, 2117, 2119, 2121, 2123, 2125, 2127, 2129, 2131, 2133, 2135, 2137, 2139, 2141, 2143, 2145, 2147, 2149, 2151, 2153, 2155, 2157, 2159, 2161, 2163, 2165, 2167, 2169, 2171, 2173, 2175, 2177, 2179, 2181, 2183, 2185, 2187, 2189, 2191, 2193, 2195, 2197, 2199, 2201, 2203, 2205, 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## CANADIAN RAILWAY SPENT \$100,000,000 IN BUILDING

Greatest Year of Railway Activity in the History of Canada

Ottawa—When the story of railway construction in Canada in 1913 is told in detail it will be shown that the progress made far exceeds anything in the past history of the country. The three transcontinental railways have been working night and day for completion or extension of their systems, and the result has been a long step in the development of transportation facilities of East and West. During the past year at least 7,500 miles of new roads were approved by the railway board and came into regular operation. In addition construction work was carried on on several thousand miles more.

The C. P. R. alone had work progressing on 4,472 miles of new trackwork west of Fort William. The rails have been laid on the National Transcontinental between Winnipeg and Moncton, and the G. T. F. promises to drive the last spike on the British Columbia section of the main line next summer. The C. N. R. has just laid the last steel to connect Toronto and Winnipeg, and is working on the mountain section. At least one hundred millions were spent on capital account by Canadian railways last year.

## BRITAIN AND GERMANY BUY FROM PORTUGAL

LONDON, Jan. 6.—It is stated on apparently good authority that Great Britain and Germany have concluded an important arrangement with regard to the African possessions of Portugal, that is Angola and Portuguese East Africa.

By this, Angola will become a German protectorate. It is a vast tract of territory, 312,000 square miles in extent, with a native population of 2,000,000, lying north of German Southwest Africa. Its proximity to the German colony is, of course, the factor which made the German claims to it so strong.

With reference to the Portuguese possessions on the other side of the continent, Mozambique on the north and Eastland on the south, territory extending from the 11th to the 26th parallels, the northern part adjacent to German East Africa will pass under German control, and the southern part, regarded as a natural seaboard for the Transvaal, will become British. The boundary will be either the Zambezi river or in its vicinity.

Advices have been received in London from Lisbon to the effect that not only has an agreement been completed, but that the purchase money has already been paid by the two powers to Portugal. It is said that the amounts to something over \$100,000,000. The Portuguese government refrains for obvious political reasons from making public the details just yet. It is felt such an arrangement would endanger the existence of the present government, which awaits more favorable time to inform the public of the bargain. The position of Portugal toward the territories will be much the same under the agreement as that of Turkey with regard to Egypt, suzerainty more in name than anything else.

There can be no doubt that the discussions which led up to the agreement had an excellent effect in clearing the air between Britain and Germany. They were, of course, rendered easier by the fact that some time before the Boer war a similar agreement was made to it. It was then not carried out, as the war increased the commercial competition between the two countries and the German naval policy combined to decrease the cordiality of the relations.

## GERMANY WILL HAVE 80,000,000 PEOPLE IN 1930

BERLIN—Germany will have 80,000,000 inhabitants in 1930, twice its population when the empire was founded in 1871, according to an estimate based on the vital statistics for the empire for 1912. The non-Prussian states have come to the rescue with 2,000 more births than in 1911, offsetting the decrease of 3,042 in birth in Prussia on which such gloomy assumption of Germany's stagnation in population were based when the Prussian statistics were published a few weeks ago.

The number of deaths in 1912 was the smallest ever recorded and the number of marriages the greatest, so that statistics do the whole makes a most satisfactory showing. The decline in the birth rate continues, but the decrease is the smallest registered in years. The rate of 26.1 births to every 1,000 inhabitants, as compared with 29.5 in 1911, 30.7 in 1911 and 32 in 1909.

The population of the empire was increased by 839,387 through the excess of births over deaths, the surplus being almost 100,000 greater than in 1911.

We wonder what the Lord thinks of a man who keeps his religion in his wife's name.

The News—Phone 50

## PRINCE OF WALES WILL ATTEND CORONATION IN GREECE

LONDON.—The Prince of Wales is going to represent his father at the coronation of the King of the Hellenes in Athens next May, and has been given rise to another matrimonial idea, as the Princess Helena, elder daughter of King Constantine, although a second cousin of the British heir apparent, is an eligible match. The Princess Helena will celebrate her eighteenth birthday a few days before her father's coronation.

It seems now that the prince is going to have a house of his own after all, as it is said that when he is 21 years old he will occupy York house, St. James' palace. The young heir to the throne will begin active connection with the army next autumn, when the 10th Hussars (the Prince of Wales' own) return to this country. They will be quartered at Aldershot.



## SYNOPSIS OF CANADIAN NORTH-WEST LAND REGULATIONS

The new head of a family, or any party, who has a claim to a certain section of available Dominion land in the Northwest, must appear in person at the office of the Surveyor General, or at the office of any local Agent, on certain conditions.

1. The applicant must be a Canadian citizen, or a person who has been naturalized in Canada, and who has been resident in Canada for at least one year.

2. The applicant must be a head of a family, or a person who has been naturalized in Canada, and who has been resident in Canada for at least one year.

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## CANADA INCREASES GOLD PRODUCTION

United States Shows Decrease of \$5,000,000 in 1913

"The gold value" of the year 1913 to the world was \$445,000,000. The production of the previous year exceeded this total by \$11,000,000. This was the first estimate of the director of the mint, Gen. Roberts, made in the year 1914.

According to Director Roberts' announcement last night, the United States gold production for the year just passed amounted to \$68,307,000, a decrease of 5,000,000. The Transvaal total was \$9,000,000 below its 1912 record, and Australia showed a decrease production of \$1,000,000. Mexico's production fell off about \$8,000,000 as the result of the revolution. Canada exceeded its output of 1913 by about \$2,700,000, and British India showed an increase of \$1,000,000. California was first among the states of the union in the production of gold with a total of \$72,801 fine ounces, valued at \$93,108,447. Colorado came second with a production valued at \$18,440,031. Alaska third, 14,782,312; Nevada fourth, \$12,188,181; South Dakota fifth, \$7,191,087; Arizona sixth, \$5,838,000; Utah seventh, \$4,400,103; Montana eighth, \$3,088,502.

## MURTERA BORROWS \$5,000,000 FROM BANKERS IN PARIS

PARIS, Jan. 6.—The loan to Mexico recently arranged here by the international group of bankers for the sole use of meeting the January interest on the Mexican government and the city of Mexico bonds amounted to about \$5,000,000, of which total New York bankers took \$900,000. London \$3,500,000 and Paris \$1,500,000. The negotiations were conducted by Albert Auriant, general manager of the Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas, who was assisted by the Mexican minister of finance, Adolfo de Loma.

Some point of view as to the conference of the bankers as to what might happen in the event of the Mexican debt being defaulted. One view which was strongly supported by financiers who disapprove of Washington's policy toward Provisional President Huerta, was that as the loan of 1910 is secured by 62 per cent of the Mexican customs and the loan of 1913 by 38 per cent, it would be the duty and the privilege of the European governments, whose subjects hold the bonds to seize the custom houses by international landing parties and collect the interest themselves.

The action holding this opinion also affirmed that the United States government could not blockade the ports of Mexico without destroying the value of the custom receipts mortgaged to foreign bondholders. These points of view will arise again when the next interest instalments fall due, unless the situation is much changed in the interval. At the French foreign office it was stated this government has no sympathy whatever with these views.

## Revolver Stopped Suicide.

CHICAGO—John Brandon, tired of life, yesterday attempted to commit suicide, by jumping from the Washington Street bridge. David Powers, a policeman, spied him floundering in the water. Flourishing a revolver, the policeman ran to the rail of the

bridge and shouted, "Come out of that. Don't try to commit suicide on 'til about noon. Come out." Brandon gave a frightened glance at the determined policeman and vigorously swam for shore. Powers took the man to a hospital and left him with instructions not to try suicide on his best again.

Notice  
Private Bids at the Bassano Furniture Store, Phone 105.  
The News—Phone 50

## To the Public

We wish to thank our friends and patrons for the liberal support which they have given us during the short time we have been in the business, and solicit your patronage in the future.

We do no knocking—our work speaks for itself.

Ask our customers.

Bassano Tinsmithing and Plumbing Co.

Phone 91

## EATON BEATEN

A Few

Christmas Books

Left at Prices Lower Than Eaton's

Bassano Drug Co.

2d Avenue and 3d Street East

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A New Meat Market

I desire to announce to the people of Bassano that I have opened

An Up-to-Date Meat Market

where a full line of Fresh and Smoked Meats can be secured. I shall keep all meats as well as Fresh and Smoked Fish

Fresh Fish Received on Friday Morning of Each Week

C. H. PADLEY

2d Avenue Bassano

Why Not Get Your

Winter Coal Supply

Before It Freezes Up

We Handle the clean heat producing, Lethbridge and

Taber coals for Domestic use.

McGillivray Creek Steam Coal for all kinds of Steam Plants.

Come to us for Satisfaction

DAEHLER AND PLUMER.

Phone 95

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## When You Buy Liquors Insist on the Best

That is the Only Kind Sold by

The Bassano Wine and Spirit Co.

Phone 90

A New Meat Market

I desire to announce to the people of Bassano that I have opened

An Up-to-Date Meat Market

where a full line of Fresh and Smoked Meats can be secured. I shall keep all meats as well as Fresh and Smoked Fish

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